



Kindergarten News

Pumpkin Patch Field Trip!

We will going on our first field trip to Summer's Farm on October 28th. Students will get the chance to learn about how pumpkins are grown, see animals who live on a farm, go on a hayride, play on the slides and giant jumping pumpkin, and choose a pumpkin to bring home. A permission slip to be filled out and returned to your child's teacher is attached. Please complete the form and send it back to school on/before Friday, Oct. 10th. Also, if you have not paid the \$20 field trip fee for the year, the cost of this trip is \$6 per student. Please contact your child's teacher if you have questions/concerns about the permission slip or fee.

We will be able to have chaperones join us for this field trip. If you are interested in chaperoning the cost is \$6.50 per adult. Please indicate on the permission slip if you are interested in joining us and send the chaperone fee to your child's teacher on/before Friday, Oct. 10th. Chaperones are not able to ride the bus due to limited seating for students. We ask chaperones to drive and meet us at Summer's Farm. Directions are listed below. Additionally, chaperones are not able to bring younger siblings on the trip as your group of students will require your full attention. Feel free to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions about being a chaperone.

Directions (from Tuscarora Elementary School/Lambert Drive):

1. Turn **RIGHT** onto Ballenger Creek Pike.
2. Follow Ballenger Creek Pike through 5 traffic lights until you reach Butterfly Lane.
3. Turn **RIGHT** onto Butterfly Lane.
4. Follow Butterfly Lane until you reach the stop sign. The farm is directly in front of you.

"Creepy Crawly Day"

On Friday, Oct. 31st we will be having a special rotation day in Kindergarten. Students will visit each teacher/classroom for a lesson related to bats or spiders. We will be working on reading, writing, retelling, following directions, cooking, and creating during our fun-filled day. Students enjoy having the opportunity to take part in exciting activities while working on important Kindergarten skills.

In order to have our "Creepy Crawly Day" be a success we need support from you! If you are available to volunteer to help during the day please contact your child's teacher. Also, if you are able to donate items for students to use during their rotations it would be greatly appreciated. The needed items are listed next to this information.

Tuscarora Elementary School

October 2008

Important Dates...

- Oct. 9th—No School
- Oct. 13th—2 Hour Late Arrival
- Oct. 14th, 15th, 16th—Conferences
- Oct. 17th—No School
- Oct. 28th—Pumpkin Patch Field Trip
- Oct. 31st—"Creepy Crawly Day"

DONATIONS!

Black yarn

Spider rings

Oreo cookies

Harvest Mix—Candy Corn

Red Licorice—Pull & Peel

M & M's

Triscuit Triangle Shaped Crackers

Developing Fine Motor Skills

An important part of Kindergarten is developing fine motor skills. The ability to manipulate small objects and strengthen muscles in fingers/hand will help your child with writing. We work on fine motor skills at school but there are many ways you can practice at home. Listed below are some simple ways to practice these skills everyday at home.

1. Play with playdough! Roll, press, pat, cut, & shape to strengthen hand muscles.
2. Cut up pictures from magazine to make posters, signs, pictures, etc. Let your child help by cutting out coupons!
3. Put together puzzles. Finding matching pieces and fitting them together requires your child to work slowly and carefully with their fingers.
4. Tear paper into small pieces and glue it down to make a picture. This also encourages creativity!
5. Make a picture using small stickers. Peeling stickers strengthens muscles in the fingers.
6. Use tweezers to pick up small objects like cereal, candy, marshmallows, etc.



Help your child to develop fine motor skills. Try these easy ideas at home!

Restroom Issues

Students have been having some issues using the restroom at school. We have included some ideas to help your child be prepared for using the restroom independently.

Please help your child be prepared for using the restroom independently and avoid accidents!

- Dress in clothes they can undo by themselves. Elastic pants are very easy to pull up and down!
- Try not to have your child wear belts or overalls, unless they can get them on/off without any difficulty.
- Practice pulling up/down zippers and buttoning pants.
- Talk with your child about flushing toilets and washing hands.
- Explain the importance of not waiting until the last minute to go to the restroom.

News & Notes

- Remember to have your child bring his/her reading bag to school everyday. We begin our reading groups by re-reading books from the reading bag and students need their reading bag to receive new books each day to share with you.
- The Health Room is looking for donations of clothes to provide when students have an accident or spill. If you have any old clothes to donate please send them to school with your child.
- Use these websites listed to reinforce learning at home:

*Eric Carle's website—www.eric-carle.com

*Sparky the Fire Dog—www.sparky.org

*Fun Brain—www.funbrain.com



Help your child to visit the websites listed for fun at home!